(b) if so, the reasons for enormous delay in commissioning the towers; and

(c) by when the Ministry would commission the above towers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, as on date, 421 tower of BSNL are ready in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Reasons for enormous delay in commissioning of towers are:

(i) Equipment procurement efforts for BSNL's new mobile expansioin project received a setback with one of the bidders approaching the Hon'ble High Court against the decision of BSNL rejecting their bid.

(ii) None of the successful vendors of the new mobile expansion project accepted the Purchase Order for South Zone, which includes Andhra Pradesh also.

(c) The tender for the South Zone is being invited. Accordingly the towers are expected to be commissioned in the year 2008-09.

Revenue through spectrum fee

212. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) Revenue earned through spectrum fee during the last three years; year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that in 2008-09 Government would earn Rs. 7000 crores through spectrum fee:

(c) if so, the details thereon;

(d) whether it is also a fact the Government is planning to increase the spectrum fee;

(e) if so, the likely impact on the tariffs; and

(f) if so, the manner in which Government is planning to check the tariff and earn more revenue through spectrum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Revenue collections relating to spectrum charges for the last three financial years are as under:—

Year Amount	(Rs. in crores)
2004-05	1037
2005-06	1376
2006-07	2090

(b) As per the Budget Estimates of the Department of Telecommunications the amount of spectrum charges likely to be collected during the financial year 2008-09 is Rs. 2806 crores.

(c) Details of the estimated amount in terms of different sources are as follows:—

	Name of the Service	Amount (Rs. in Crores)
1.	GSM Service	2200
2.	CDMA Service	450
3.	VSAT (Commercial) Service	6
4.	Others	150

(d) to (f) The review of spectrum fee is undertaken from time to time, taking into account various relevant factors.

Allocation of spectrum

213. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has issued Letter of Intent (LOI) to various companies form allocation of spectrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether spectrum is available to meet the requirement of all who have been issued LOI; and

(d) if not, by when full spectrum will be available and the criteria to be adopted for future allocation of spectrum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) The Government has issued 121 Letters of Intent (LOI) to various companies on 10.01.2008, for award of Unified Access Services Licences (UASL).

As per the relevant previsions of Unified Access Services Licence agreement, the spectrum is allotted to the service providers, on first serve basis subject to availability of spectrum which is assessed from time to time.

Disinvestment in BSNL

†214. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering disinvestment in BSNL for its development and expansion;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total capital of BSNL at present and the capital required for its development and expansion; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.